

## Message Text

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17/12

ACTION EA-09

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USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6002

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1885

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 4)

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: MOFA REBUTS DPRK CHARGES

REF: STATE 059880

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS CONCERNING "THE DANGER OF ANOTHER WAR IN KOREA" AS  
ALLEGED BY NORTH KOREAN HANDED TO POLCOUNS BY AMERICAN AFFAIRS  
BUREAU DIRECTOR PARK SANG YONG AFTER HAVING BEEN RELEASED TO  
PRESS MARCH 13:

BEGIN QUOTE

1. IN A LETTER RECENTLY SENT TO FOREIGN PARLIAMENTS  
AND GOVERNMENTS BY THE SO-CALLED SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY,  
NORTH KOREA DEMANDED THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE U.S. TROOPS  
AND THE DISSOLUTION OF THE U.N. COMMAND IN KOREA, WHILE  
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CLAIMING THAT THE DANGER OF ANOTHER WAR IN THE KOREAN

PENINSULA IS INCREASING. IN ADDITION, THROUGH ITS OBSERVER'S OFFICE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, NORTH KOREA HAS PROPAGATED THE FALSE CLAIM THAT "A GRAVE SITUATION IN WHICH WAR MAY BREAK OUT AT ANY MOMENT IS BEING CREATED IN KOREA". COMMUNIST NORTH KOREA IS NOT ONLY SEEKING TO MISLEAD SOME NON-ALIGNED NATIONS WHO ARE NOT WELL INFORMED OF THE ACTUAL SITUATION IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA WITH SUCH FALSE ALLEGATIONS, BUT HAS ABUSED THE UNITED NATIONS BY TURNING IT INTO AN AREANA FOR THEIR CAMOUFLAGED PEACE PROPAGANDA.

2. SUCH FALSE PROPAGANDA BY NORTH KOREA IS BY NO MEANS NEW. IN VIEW OF THE ESCALATION OF NORTH KOREAN PROVOCATIONS TOWARD THE SOUTH SINCE THE COMMUNIST TAKE-OVER OF INDOCHINA LAST APRIL, WE HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY ALERT TO THEIR COVERT AND OVERT EFFORTS TO UNIFY KOREA UNDER THE COMMUNIST RULE. NORTH KOREA'S SYSTEMATIC PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR DIRECTED AT PROPAGATING A FALSE ALARM ABOUT THE DANGER OF ANOTHER WAR AND ITS CONCURRENT EFFORTS TO SLANDER THE UNITED STATES MUST BE SEEN AS AN ATTEMPT TO ALIENATE THE UNITED STATES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AS WELL AS AN EFFORT TO MANIPULATE THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS SO AS TO WEAKEN THE SECURITY POSTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

3. MOREOVER, WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT THIS ALARMING NORTH KOREAN PROPAGANDA IS IN FACT A SMOK-SCREEN MEANT TO CONCEAL ITS SCHEME TO LAUNCH A WAR AGAINST THE SOUTH. NORTH KOREA, WHICH UNILATERALLY DISRUPTED THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE BASED ON THE JULY 4 SOUTH-NORTH JOINT COMMUNIQUE, HAS REPEATEDLY REJECTED PROPOSALS BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO RESUME THE DIALOGUE. NORTH KOREA IS SPENDING HUGE SUMS, EQUIVALENT TO 29 PERCENT OF ITS GNP, ON MILITARY PREPARATIONS. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE WORLD LEADERS AND CITIZENS WHO ARE AWARE OF THESE FACTS WOULD NEVER BE DECEIVED BY THE FRAUDULENT PROPAGANDA OF THIS KONDO.

4. IT IS WIDELY KNOWN THAT NORTH KOREA, WHICH HAS RUN INTO DEBT BECAUSE OF ITS EXCESSIVE MILITARY

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EXPENDITURE AND ITS "OVERSEAS PROPAGANDA" ACTIVITIES, HAS NOT ONLY BECOME A LAUGHING-STOCK IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BY DEFAULTING ITS FOREIGN DEBT, BUT ALSO HAS GIVEN RISE TO PUBLIC CRITICISM IN MANY QUARTERS OF THE WORLD BY INSTIGATING AND SUPPORTING COMMUNIST REVOLUTIONS UNDER THE VEIL OF THE DIPLOMATIC NICETIES. IT ALSO APPEARS THAT NORTH KOREA IS VICIOUSLY SLANDERING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND HER ALLIES IN ORDER TO DISTRACT THE ATTENTION

OF ITS PEOPLE TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD INASMUCH AS INTER-PARTY POWER STRUGGLE OVER THE PROBLEM OF SELECTING A SUCCESSOR TO KIM IL SUNG IS BEING GRADUALLY EXPOSED.

5. AN EXAMINATION OF HER RECORD WITHIN THE INTER-NATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IS SINCERELY PURSUING A POLICY OF PEACE. OUR EFFORTS FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION HAVE BEEN WARMLY SUPPORTED IN THE U.N. EVER SINCE THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZED THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AS THE ONLY LAWFUL GOVERNMENT IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA. OUR PURSUIT OF PEACE HAS BEEN MANIFESTED IN THE JUNE 23 FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT AND THE THREE BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION.

6. THE PRESENCE OF THE U.S. TROOPS IN KOREA CANNOT BE CONSIDERED AN OBJECT OF CONTROVERSY TO EITHER NORTH KOREA OR ANY THIRD PARTY, SINCE IT IS BASED ON THE KOREA-U.S. MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY, A BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SOVEREIGN STATES. NORTH KOREA'S PERSISTENT DEMAND TO DISSOLVE, WITHOUT AN ALTERNATIVE, THE U.N. COMMAND WHICH IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KOREAN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT IN MAINTAINING PEACE BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND NORTH, CAN NEVER BE ACCEPTED, BECAUSE SUCH A MOVE WOULD ONLY ENDANGER THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA.

7. THE MORE NORTH KOREA INSISTS ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS AND THE DISSOLUTION OF THE U.N. COMMAND IN KOREA, THE MORE IT MUST BE SUSPECTED THAT THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNIST LEADERS ARE PLOTTING ANOTHER INVASION OF THE SOUTH RATHER THAN HONESTLY ENDEAVOURING TO SECURE A PERMANENT PEACE. THE RECENT NORTH KOREAN PROPAGANDA

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ABOUT "THE IMMINENCE OF ANOTHER WAR" ONLY SERVES TO CAUTION US TO STRENGTHEN OUR MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AGAINST ANY POSSIBLE CONTINGENCY.

8. WE CANNOT AFFORD TO PERMIT THE STABILITY AND THE REMARKABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS ACHIEVED IN RECENT YEARS TO BE DESTROYED BY ANOTHER WAR IN KOREA. FOR THIS REASON, WE ARE TAKING EVERY NECESSARY PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE IN THE SPIRIT OF SELF-HELP AND SELF-RELIANCE TO PREVENT NORTH KOREA FROM ITS HOSTILE PROVOCATIONS.

9. WE ONCE AGAIN URGE NORTH KOREA TO ABANDON COMPLETELY ITS DANGEROUS SCHEMES FOR UNIFYING THE WHOLE OF KOREA BY FORCE UNDER THE COMMUNIST RULE, AND ITS HOSTILE AND FRAUDULENT PROPAGANDA, AND TO REJOIN

IMMEDIATELY IN THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE WITH A CONSTRUCTIVE AND SINCERE ATTITUDE, IN RESPONSE TO THE COMMON ASPIRATION OF ALL THE KOREAN PEOPLE FOR A DURABLE PEACE IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA. END QUOTE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL:

COMMENT: ON RECEIPT OF STATEMENT POLCOUNS EXPRESSED AMBASSADOR'S SURPRISE THAT WE HAD NOT BEEN SHOWN STATEMENT PRIOR TO ITS RELEASE AS ACTING FONMIN HAS INDICATED HE WOULD DO. WE BELIEVE THAT RATHER STRIDENT TONE OF STATEMENT WILL DETRACT FROM ITS EFFECTIVENESS AMONG NEUTRAL NATIONS AND SUGGESTS THAT KOREAN PEOPLE MAY HAVE BEEN PRINCIPLE AUDIENCE IN MOFA'S MIND IN PREPARING STATEMENT. STATEMENT IN FACT IS SIMILAR IN TONE AND CONTENT TO PREVIOUS REMARKS SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED AT HOME FRONT. WHILE IT CLEARLY CONTAINS COMMENTS WE WOULD HAVE PHRASED DIFFERENTLY WE DETECT NO NEW DEPARTURES HES THAT CAUSE US REAL DIFFICULTY. SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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